

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 08687 062047Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 ARA-06 H-02 L-03 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 CG-00

OFA-01 DLOS-03 /096 W

----- 082371

R 062031Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1763

INFO MARAD WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 08687

MARAD FOR: R. GAGE, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ACITIVITIES

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EWWT, CU, UK

SUBJ: SHIPPING IMPLICATIONS OF CUBA-UK TRADE COMMISSION

REF: LONDON 7579, 7681, 8329

1. EMBOFFS MET WITH OFFICIALS IN SHIPPING POLICY DIV.,
DEPT. OF TRADE (BANNARD), TO DISCUSS THE SHIPPING
IMPLICATIONS OF A RECENTLY ANNOUNCED ANGLO-CUBAN ECONOMIC
AGREEMENT.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. IT WAS REPORTED THAT
DR. CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ, CUBAN FIRST DEPUTY PRIME
MINISTER, HAS BEEN IN LONDON ON A HIGH LEVEL TRADE
MISSION. DURING HIS VISIT AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED
TO ESTABLISH A JOINT COMMISSION WHICH WILL MEET ANNUALLY
TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS OF, AND PROSPECTS FOR, ECONOMIC
AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION. FOLLOWING THIS AGREEMENT
AN ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE BY THE EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 08687 062047Z

DEPARTMENT (ECGD) STATING THAT THE UK GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO

AGREED TO GIVE CUBA ADDITIONAL TRADE CREDITS OF 250M POUNDS AT AN UNDISCLOSED RATE OF INTEREST - REPORTED TO BE AT LEAST 7.75 PER CENT. THE ECGD HAS GUARANTEED A TOTAL OF 17M POUNDS CREDIT TO THE CUBANS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, INCLUDING 7.7M POUNDS FOR AN ORDER TO AUSTEN AND PICKERSGIL FOR FOUR CARGO VESSELS DUE IN MID 1976. TRADE PUBLICATIONS HERALDED THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS AS A STEP FORWARD FOR UK EXPORTS. LLOYDS LIST CALLED THE AGREEMENT A "SHIPPING ACCORD". END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. THE SHIPPING POLICY DIVISION OFFICIALS CLAIM THERE IS NO SHIPPING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UK AND CUBA. OTHER THAN THE QUERY RECEIVED FROM C. LYONS REPORTED IN REFTTEL, THE SHIPPING POLICY DIVISION HAS NOT BEEN CONTACTED BY BRITISH SHIPOWNERS INTERESTED IN EXPANDING THEIR TRADE TO CUBA. WE ARE ADVISED THAT ANOTHER MEETING WILL BE HELD BETWEEN THE UK AND CUBA IN HAVANA THIS COMING NOVEMBER AND THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED. BANNARD SAYS THE UK GOVERNMENT'S POSITION IS "LET US WAIT AND SEE". IF THE UK SHIPPING INTERESTS ARE DESIROUS OF ESTABLISHING SHIPPING SERVICES TO CUBA, THOSE INTERESTS WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AT SOME STAGE. THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL TAKE PLACE IF SUFFICIENT TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES MATERIALIZES. THEY DO NOT EXPECT ANY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN TRADE WITH CUBA OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. UK SHIPPING INTERESTS ARE AWARE THAT THE QUESTION OF CUBAN SANCTION WILL BE DISCUSSED IN SAN JOSE IN JULY AND THEY WILL WATCH THIS DEVELOPMENT WITH INTEREST. WE AGREED TO KEEP IN TOUCH ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. COMMENT: IT MAY BE THAT SOVFRAC IS ATTEMPTING TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE MAVROLEAN SHIPPING INTERESTS TO RETURN TO THE CUBAN TRADES SINCE THIS GROUP WAS THE TRADE UNDER THREAT OF OAS SANCTIONS. ALTHOUGH NO OTHER UK SHIPPING COMPANIES APPEAR TO BE INVOLVED, WE DID NOT GET THE IMPRESSION THAT THE UK GOVERNMENT WOULD SHOW ANY DISPLEASURE AT UK SHIPOWNERS WHO ENTERED THE CUBAN TRADE. THIS ATTITUDE HAS BEEN THE CONSISTENT UK POLICY OF NON-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LONDON 08687 062047Z

INTERFERENCE WITH THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY. END COMMENT.
END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

SPIERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPORTS, CREDIT, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellEO
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON08687
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750199-0347
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750674/aaaacprc.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LONDON 7579, 75 7681, 75 8329
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellEO
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by RowellEO>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHIPPING IMPLICATIONS OF CUBA-UK TRADE COMMISSION
TAGS: EWWT, CU, UK, (RODRIQUEZ, CARLOS RAFAEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006